

MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Sunday 27 August 2023

IAASA Community Centre

Chair: Mr Trimann Gill, President

1. Welcome by the Secretary – Ms Priya Premkumar

Ms Premkumar opened the meeting, welcomed everyone, and acknowledged the Kurna people.

The AGM was delayed by 30 minutes as per the Constitution due to quorum not being present at the scheduled time 4.00pm.

A one-minute silence was observed in respect of Mr Joe Raniga, who passed away on Wednesday, 23rd Aug 2023 and other seniors who passed away during the last financial year.

2. Apologies and declaration of Quorum

The AGM was started at 4.30pm. Those who were present were declared as the quorum available for today's meeting. No Apologies were received.

3. Adoption of Minutes of the AGM held in 2022 – by the secretary

Ms Premkumar advised that the Minutes of the 2022 AGM held on 21 August 2022 had been circulated by email on the 18th of August 2023 and hard copies are available for reference today. As no comments or queries were raised, motion to approve Minutes was put to the Members.

Acceptance of the Minutes of the 2022 AGM was proposed by Mr Amarjit Grewal and seconded by Mr Vikram Madan. Minutes of the 2022 AGM were accepted. Motion passed.

4. President's Report – Mr Trimann Gill

Mr Gill welcomed all present, acknowledged the Kurna people before presenting his report.

Mr Gill thanked those present for attending and the members for their support of IAASA including the past presidents and volunteers. He mentioned that his term as President coincided with COVID pandemic which has been challenging yet a humbling and rewarding experience. He also thanked the committee for their hard efforts during that time.

Mr Gill also thanked Hon Peter Malinauskas MP, Premier of South Australia and Hon Zoe Bettison MP, Minister for Multicultural Affairs for their support to IAASA. Mr Gill was very appreciative of the Hon Premier for Hosting Reception at Parliament House to celebrate 75 years of Indian Independence on a request by IAASA.

Mr Gill noted the various achievements of IAASA including organising International Students Support Forum in partnership with AUSSIZZ group to address general questions about visa/migration, Diwali at IAASA Hall and attending the Diwali Reception hosted by the Hon Premier.

Moreover, IAASA organised a trip of the visiting parents to the Parliament and the city followed by lunch at Spark International college. Mr Gill thanked Mr Michael Brown MP and

Hon Tung Ngo MLC for being hosts at the Parliament. There was also the Senior's Wine and Dine, Christmas and the Indian Republic Day events all held at IAASA Hall.

More importantly, the Indian Mela 2023 at Victoria Square on 24th and 25th of February, which was a great success, attended by numerous different multicultural communities and the wider South Australian community. The Mela, was supported financially by State Government Department of Premier & Cabinet with the Premier delivering his promise of increasing the funding for the Mela 2023 from \$30,000 to \$50,000. Mr Gill is thankful to Hon Premier and Hon Zoe Bettison MP, Minister for multicultural affairs for supporting and promoting the Indian Mela.

Mr Gill thanked and congratulated Mr Amarjit Grewal (Mela Chairperson) for his leadership and dedication, leading a dedicated team of volunteers and committee members, which turned out to be the biggest Mela yet with record crowd attendance with many vendors selling out completely. Mr Gill acknowledged and appreciated the support from hardworking committee members and volunteers.

Further activities included, an INDIAN themed IAASA talent show (under the IAASA Engagement program with the City of Port Adelaide and Enfield Council) which had participation from different cultures and diversities, celebrated International Women's Day, Mother's Day and Vaisakhi at the IAASA Hall. One week before this AGM, India's Independence Day celebrations was held at the Woodville Town Hall.

Mr Gill announced the names of new Life Members.

Mr Gill concluded by thanking everyone in the committee for their efforts and hard work throughout the 2022-23 year as well as acknowledged the efforts and support of the Honorary Auditor, Honorary Solicitor and the Returning Officer as well as the IAASA Sponsors (including CMI Portside).

5. Treasurer's Report and Adoption of the Financial Report for the year ending 30 June 2023 – Mr Shammi Batra

Mr Batra presented the 2022-23 Financial Reports of IAASA, which was distributed and was made available to the members prior to the Meeting and then welcomed queries on the report from the members.

Mr Batra presented the Major items in the Financial Reports and Balance Sheet items. This included the breakdowns of the Income and Expenses related to the grants received, Mela 2023, etc.

Mr Vittal Shettigara raised a question about the membership income and whether the number of members has decreased. Ms Premkumar confirmed this but there has been an increase of IAASA Life Members over the past financial year.

Mr Vikram Madan raised a query regarding the grants given that no grant has been received in the recently concluded financial year. Mr Batra clarified that the previous grants being Mela Grants, received in 2023-24. Mr Gill added that the IAASA Committee is currently applying for new grants.

Mr Shettigara enquired, if IAASA applied for the grants for equipment upgrades? Mr Grewal and Mr Gill clarified that such grant were received in the past; further added that there are plans to apply for Book shelf, moving the kitchen outside to make use of the hall etc.

Financial Reports of IAASA for the year 2022-23 was moved by the treasurer. Proposed by Mr Amarjit Grewal. Seconded by Mr Vittal Shettigara. Motion passed.

6. Any other business

Mrs Sushila Palani briefed the members about IAASA's community engagement survey (online as well as at Mela event venue) results conducted with the support of City of Port Adelaide and Enfield. Further discussed the latest updates including a Music Jamming Session in the City which started last week with 6-8 people and the Talent Show which was first proposed many years ago by Dr. Jagadish Saraf.

7. Open Forum: Points and suggestions from Members

- Mr Vittal Shettigara raised a concern regarding IAASA Hall management. It has been observed that many times, when the hall is used, it is not left clean after the use; there is a need to monitor this. Subsequent to the deliberations among the members, a general consensus was reached as to the hall management need improvement eg. obtain cleaning charge from the hall users, supply cleaning equipment etc.
- Mr Shettigara also asked if some cleaning supplies can be provided and whether the old furniture, eg. Chairs; in the IAASA Hall can be replaced. Mr Gill suggested charging of a cleaning fee upfront. Mr Gill and Mr Niraj Pandya shared their thoughts as to how challenging it is for committee members to manage the IAASA Hall with their fulltime jobs. Ms. Rani suggested to engage 2 or 3 three volunteers as hall managers.
- Retd Maj General Vikram Madan asked if an inventory register exists since IAASA hall has been purchasing inventory (e.g. P.A equipment). Ms. Priya Premkumar responded saying that there exist an inventory list, which was initially prepared in 2019-20 and the same is being updated every year. The updated list will be handed over to the new committee. However, Ms. Priya Premkumar commented that there is a need to establish a proper place to store the inventory securely.

8. Election of New Executive Committee for 2023-24 (Returning Officer, Retd Maj General Vikram Madan presided)

Retd Maj General Vikram Madan had circulated an email to IAASA members on 9th August 2023, informing that an election was not necessary as single nominations per position were only received by the due date.

Accordingly, the returning officer announced the names of incoming Committee for the year 2023-24 (all uncontested):

President: Mr Navdeep Sharma

Vice-President: Mrs Veena Madan

Secretary: Ms. Geetha Suresh Kumar

Treasurer: Mr Shammi Batra

Committee Members: Mr. Shishir Zaveri, Mr. Saurin Patel, Mr. SP Kalra, Ms. Monica Sharma, Ms. Supriti Dasgupta, Mr. Ojas Deshmukh, Dr. Mubarak Ali Rahatmatullah

Subsequently, the returning officer welcomed the new committee and invited the new President, Mr Navdeep Sharma to address the members.

9. Vote of thanks by the Secretary

Ms Premkumar thanked the outgoing President Mr Trimann Gill for managing and running IAASA efficiently. She also thanked all the committee members for their active involvement and hard work in organising and running various events.

Special thanks were extended to:

- Honorary Auditor Mr Ramiah Palani
- Honorary Solicitor Mr Sigan Devassy Enchakal
- Returning Officer Retd Maj General Vikram Madan

Ms Premkumar also thanked all the sponsors for their generous support as well as the Government officials, Indian consulate officials, regional and cultural organisations and IAASA well-wishers. Moreover, Ms Premkumar also thanked all the members and the volunteers who have assisted her to conduct the meeting successfully.

10. Nomination of Honorary Auditor, Solicitor and Returning Officer

The incoming President Mr Navdeep Sharma, suggested the following names for various positions and called for Proposers and Seconders:

Honorary Auditor – Mr Ramiah Palani. Proposed by Mr Trimann Gill and Seconded by Dr Mubarak Ali Ramantullah

Honorary Solicitor – Sigan Devassy Enchakal. Proposed by Mr Amarjit Grewal and Seconded by Mr Trimann Gill.

Returning Officer – Mr Premkumar Panicker. Proposed by Mr Amarjit Grewal and Seconded by Mr Niraj Pandya.

11. Conclusion of AGM.

The AGM closed at 5.22pm, followed by dinner.